

Co 243.129-C

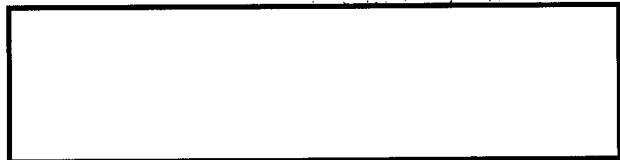
DAF

AUG - 6 PM 3:25

United States Senate

July 29, 1974

(b)(6)



Respectfully referred to  
Congressional Liaison  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
Washington, D. C. 20536

for such consideration as the communication  
herewith submitted may warrant, and for a report  
thereon, in duplicate to accompany return of  
inclosure.

By direction of

Clifford P. Case

CPC:sj

U. S. S.

CMU file Co 703.112

*Frankly sent*  
AUG 1 1974

PAGE WITHHELD PURSUANT TO  
(b)(6)

cc: CO 2/3.129-C

March 6, 1974

CO 893.1

(b)(6)



Your recent letter addressed to the President, regarding Mr. John Lennon has been referred to this Service since it concerns an immigration matter.

The immigration case of Mr. Lennon is presently on appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals, Washington, D. C. Future action by this Service would be guided by the decision rendered by that Board.

Sincerely,

James F. Greene  
Deputy Commissioner

cc: DD New York, New York - A17 597 321. For your information and file.

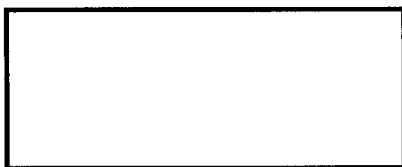
cc: CO 2/3.129-C  
WFO/JEP/hw

cc: CO 243.129-C

March 6, 1976

CO 893.62 (10)

(b)(6)



Your recent letter, addressed to the Passport Office, State Department, Washington, D. C. regarding John Lennon, has been referred to this Service since it concerns an immigration matter.

The immigration case of John Lennon is presently on appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals, Washington, D. C. Future action by this Service will be guided by the decision rendered by that Board.

Sincerely,

James F. Greene  
Deputy Commissioner

cc: DD New York, New York - A17 597 321 relates. For your information and file.

cc: CO 243.129-C  
WFO/JEP/um

April 18, 1974

CO 893.2-C

(b)(6)



Your recent letter, addressed to the State Department, Washington, D. C. regarding John Lennon, has been referred to this Service since it concerns an immigration matter.

The immigration case of John Lennon is presently on appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals, Washington, D. C. Future action by this Service will be guided by the decision rendered by that Board.

Sincerely,

James F. Greene  
Deputy Commissioner

cc: D.D. NEW YORK CITY. - A17 597 321 relates. Correspondence under acknowledgement attached for your information and file.

~~cc: CO 243.129-C~~

cc: Commissioner's Reading Copy

ENF:WPO:GW:smd

SEARCHED AND FORWARDED

APR 18 1974

FILE

Detention and Deportation

FILED

ACB

✓ CO 243.129-C

Dear Mr. Holmes:

I have your letter of July 18, 1974, regarding the deportation matter of Mr. John Lennon.

On July 10, 1974, the Board of Immigration Appeals dismissed Mr. Lennon's appeal of the Immigration Judge's order and permitted him 60 days from the date of the decision in which to depart voluntarily from the United States.

An alien in the United States is guaranteed the same constitutional rights of "due process" and "equal protection of the laws" as are citizens of this country. Therefore, in deportation proceedings an individual must be charged with specific violations, accorded a hearing, and if desired, may appeal the validity of such charges. In relation to such proceedings, the Supreme Court has ruled that the applicability of such charges must be sustained by clear, convincing and unequivocal evidence.

You may be assured, Mr. Holmes, that Mr. Lennon has been granted a fair and impartial hearing.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

L. F. Chapman, Jr.  
Commissioner

Mr. Jon Holmes  
Director, The Polaroid Collection  
Polaroid Corporation  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

CC: Commissioner's Reading File

ENF:CAB:dg

CAB

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(b)(6)

IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE  
CENTRAL OFFICE ROUTING SHEET

1143

Date 7/23/74

Routing Order	OPR Code	DATE		Initial	ADDRESSEES	FROM
		IN	OUT			
6	I				COMMISSIONER	Polaroid Corp. com
					Executive Assistant	
					General Counsel	
					Public Information Officer	SUBJECT  John Lennon  (Prep. by C. Butch, D&D)
5	B	8/2	8/2	S	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER	
4	B	8/1	8/2	mg	Exec. Asst. Deputy Comm.	
					Director, Field Inspections	
					Director, Intelligence	
					Director, Internal Investigations	
					ASSOC. DEP. COMM. PLAN. & EVAL.	
1	H	7/25	7-25	ew	ASSOC. COMM. ENFORCEMENT	
					Asst. Comm. Border Patrol	
2	H	7/25	8/1	WPP	Asst. Comm. Det. & Deport.	
					Asst. Comm. Investigations	
					ASSOC. COMM. EXAMINATIONS	
					Asst. Comm. Adjudications	
					Asst. Comm. Inspections	
					ASSOC. COMM. MANAGEMENT	
					Asst. Comm. Administration	ROUTING - Use numbers to show order of routing
					Asst. Comm. Naturalization	
					Asst. Comm. Personnel	
3	B	8/1	8/1	ASP	Asst. Comm. ENF	
					Other	

REMARKS

(Continue Comments on Reverse)

FINAL DISPOSITION <small>(Must be completed before return to files)</small>	ACTION COMPLETED BY: <input type="checkbox"/> LETTER <input type="checkbox"/> MESSAGE <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	NO ACTION REQUIRED BY: <input type="checkbox"/>
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FORM CO 275 (REV. 5-17-74)

CU 8/6/74

1437



COMMITTEES:  
PUBLIC WORKS  
HOUSE ADMINISTRATION  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON  
CONGRESSIONAL OPERATIONS

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
TEL: 225-5206

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
316 FEDERAL BUILDING  
55 PLEASANT STREET  
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301  
TEL: 224-4187

23 TEMPLE STREET  
NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03060  
TEL: 853-4525

September 16, 1974

CO 243.129-C

Congressional Liaison  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
119 D Street, NE  
Washington, D. C. 20536

Dear Sir:

Re: John Lennon

I am enclosing a copy of the letter received from [redacted]  
[redacted] regarding the department of John Lennon. I would appreciate  
having a report on the matter.

(b)(6)  
(b)(6)

Sincerely,

*James C. Cleveland*  
James C. Cleveland  
Member of Congress

JCC/jm

Enclosure

CMU 703.760

Form Reply Sent: 10/2/74

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HARRISON A. WILLIAMS, JR., N.J., CHAIRMAN  
JEROME R. RANDOLPH, W. VA.  
CLAUDE PEEL, R.I.  
EDWARD M. KENNEDY, MASS.  
GAYLORD NELSON, WIS.  
WALTER F. MONDALE, MINN.  
THOMAS P. EAGLETON, MO.  
ALAN CRANSTON, CALIF.  
HAROLD E. FISHER, IOWA  
WILLIAM D. HATHAWAY, MAINE

JACOB K. JAVITS  
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ROBERT EAST, JR., OHIO  
J. GLENN BEALL, JR., MD.  
ROBERT T. STAFFORD, VT.

STEWART E. MCCLURE, STAFF DIRECTOR  
ROBERT E. HAGLE, GENERAL COUNSEL

100 243.129-C  
10:12  
United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
LABOR AND PUBLIC WELFARE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Sept. 20, 1974

Immigration Service

TO:

ENCLOSURE FROM:

RE:

I am forwarding the attached for your consideration. I would appreciate receiving any information you have available that will enable me to be responsive to my constituent's inquiry.

Please return the enclosed correspondence with your report.

Thank you for your time and effort.

Sincerely,

*Harrison A. Williams, Jr.*  
Harrison A. Williams, Jr.

Reply to:

SENATOR HARRISON A. WILLIAMS, JR.  
352 Richard Russell Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

*CMU 703, 544*  
*Form Reply*  
*Sent 10/2/74*

1442

PAGE WITHHELD PURSUANT TO  
(b)(6)

CC

LA 243-129-C

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

September 9, 1974

Sir:

The attached communication is sent for your consideration. Please investigate the statements contained therein and forward me the necessary information for reply, returning the enclosed correspondence with

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS  
 ROUTE TO IMMIG & NATZ  
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 8 SEP 13 1974  
 M. C. R.A.O.  
 OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

ROUTE TO IMMIG & NATZ.

CMU 703.781

Form Reply Sent: 10/4/74



# Athena Enterprises, Inc.

1515 MONROE STREET • DENVER, COLORADO 80208  
(303) 399-8681

August 14, 1974

AUG 16 1974

Senator Donald Brotzman  
Cannon House Building, Room 403  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Senator Brotzman:

It has come to our attention that John Lennon has until September 10th to leave our fair country. It is extremely difficult for us to understand why a man of his talent; someone who has made so many contributions to the music of today, who has for the most part been an ideal citizen while in this country, and of course, someone who is far from indigent, should have such an inhuman power play put upon him.

It is important to note that we have no financial interest in the future of Mr. Lennon, but only in the interest of the art of music. Since living here, John Lennon has written several songs, produced many records for American artists and, in general, has added to the color and flavor of the American music scene. As a concerned citizen, as a voter, as an appreciator of this man's significant contribution, I ask your intervention in this matter.

Expectantly yours,

Chester W. Hanson, Jr.  
President

CWH:tc

Encl.

*P.S. I am a Boulder Resident*



NEW YORK—On July 18th, the Justice Department announced that it had ordered John Lennon to leave the country by September 10th, after the Immigration Service denied Lennon an extension of his non-immigrant visa because of his guilty plea in England to a 1968 marijuana possession charge.

On the same day, a California state senate committee urged decriminalization of marijuana possession in the state, calling it "no threat to public health, safety or morals."

Four days later the *New York Post* in an editorial said, "The crime for which John Lennon was convicted in London in 1968 would not even land him in a New York jail."

On that day also, FBI statistics on marijuana arrests in the U.S. were released: 420,700 in 1973, 292,179 in 1972; and Keith Stroup, director of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, estimated that 26 million Americans occasionally smoke marijuana.

The dry statistics and public statements of support — including many from within the show business community—nonetheless left Lennon riding a lonely horse. According to one of his attorneys, Steven Weinberg, his next step is the federal courts. "Unless there are orders by the court to stay that decision, Lennon is going to have to leave the country," Weinberg said. "But wherever there is an administrative decision that you feel is against the weight of evidence, you can always petition the federal courts to review that decision."

A Senate staff member (the Senate immigration and naturalization subcommittee, along with its House counterpart, oversees the Immigration Service) said, "He can try to get the charge appealed or whatever the procedure is in England, or something can be passed through Congress which gives the attorney general the authority to judge whether John Lennon or others can establish permanent residence in a specific case—something that allows these exclusionary provisions to be waived."

Prospects in both of those areas are slim, however, since Lennon has tried before, unsuccessfully, to have the English charge dropped, and since there is no expectation of a special bill getting through Congress.

"I think there should be some revision of the law if small amounts of marijuana are involved," said Rep. Joshua Eilberg (D-Pa.), chairman of the House subcommittee. But he suggested that no action has been taken because "for the past two years we have been totally occupied by the confirmation of the vice-president and the impeachment inquiry." The subcommittees are under their respective houses' judiciary committees.

A Senate subcommittee staff member said, "The reason exclusionary bills

same committee members would never say so publicly.

Whether any legal prospect is open to Lennon, though, is questionable. Two Senate staff members spoke of the Byzantine workings of the Washington mind. "Lennon has got enough money to keep appealing this thing forever," one said, "and that's what they'll let him do." The other: "If he'd just hire Edward Bennett Williams then he could do whatever he wants."

## Comments: Let Him Be

**RINGO STARR:** Don't you think it's time to end all this silliness and give John his visa? Because he's one of the greatest of our time and your time. America should be proud that John wants to live here.

**LOU ADLER:** History will reflect on the life of the incredibly talented John Lennon. His contributions will be remembered, and felt, long after the rule and rule makers that cause us to defend his right to choose where he wished to live and create, will have disappeared and been forgotten.

**DAVID GEFFEN:** I think it's so moronic. He's certainly not undesirable. To me, it makes no sense; it's sad and tragic. The political system in America is in such complete disarray, this is just another kind of ridiculousness. Lennon is certainly more desirable than Nixon.

**RICHARD PERRY:** The times are strange indeed when an antiquated law can force a man to leave this country, particularly when that man has contributed so vitally to our culture. It is to our credit that John Lennon has chosen to live in this country. Most important, he's one of the few people who really understands and loves the essence of rock & roll.

**CLIVE DAVIS:** This country was founded by free-thinking great minds, but the breed is a diminishing one. We should be thankful that Lennon wants to make these shores his home. Since his spirit will always live with us, it's really pointless to banish its physical manifestation.

**ART GARFUNKEL:** If John Lennon is deported, I'm leaving too . . . with my musicians . . . and my marijuana . . .

**YOKO ONO:** I'm very saddened by the news. John's lawyer is now preparing to appeal to a higher court and I hope

NEW YORK — John was wearing shades, his chestnut hair glistening in the fancy studio lights, big ones over his ears, sitting in a booth by himself, looking at his session band through a plate-glass partition, changing on a solid Lody electric, grinning, laughing, smiling and chattering like some mad coachman who keeps whipping the horses, *kerrraaack, kerrraaack, kerrraaack*, scaring the shit out of all his passengers, except he knows perfectly well he's going to get everybody home safe. He's just in a hurry.

Jim Keltner was bushed and didn't mind dropping hints about it. Klaus Voormann never loses his cool but he was starting to pale around the fringes. Nicky Hopkins always looks like you could blow him over but now he was *Wahole*. Even Indian Ed (Jesse Davis) was starting to droop and you know what an ox he is. It was one of the most dynamite bands ever to put locker-room stink into a studio and how could John help but enjoy playing with them? The trouble was he was enjoying it too much.

He was running them ragged. They had been going for days; John, of course, looked as bright, cheerful, fresh and alert as a toadsticker dancing on a cue ball. Mad coachman? He was Ben Hur-winning the chariot race. When I walked in they were doing the seventh international marathon take of some instrumental with a tricky break, and their speed left me, old fart, gasping. Over and over again they did it, sometimes blowing it in the middle somewhere and John would just start counting off again, "two-two-three-four," and off they'd zoom, with hardly enough time for a swallow of air. Finally they got a take, or at least one that John had gotten off on. He wanted to get off again, right away, "two-two-three-four," but Shelly Yakus, the engineer, cut in over the talkback and told him they'd have to wait a minute because they had run out of tape and he had to change reels.

"Aaaaugh!" John cried out, his head jerking upward, like the executioner had just pulled the switch on him in the electric chair.

The band looked at him as if he were some kind of idiot. Here the sergeant had just told them to take ten after a 40-mile forced march and *Mr. Banzail* over there is freaking out because he can't wait to get to the front and go over the top. I thought I even heard a couple of the band members go, "Wnew!" They could hardly lift themselves out of their little sound-buffered encampments to go stretch their legs or smoke a cigarette.

Indian Ed had told me the night before that John was a slavedriver. "Well, you know, John's, uh, he's a slavedriver." Or was it Keltner saying that? They both said it in their own ways but they



David Gahr

John always works when he's working in New York. He came out of his glass cage and into the control booth, grinning from behind his shades. I said hello and made a few lame jokes about how fast he was getting the album done. He sort of joked back but his head was into the tune he was working on. He had just enough time to be polite with me.

I kept looking at John and thinking of that horrible blotch of darkness that had run in all the newspapers only a couple of days before, a horrible blotch of darkness which was represented to be a picture of John. It had run with a story about the government's latest attempt to deport him, a ruling by an administrative law judge in the Immigration Department, if I'm not mistaken. I thought about the horrible blotch of darkness and about how John has been living under this threat for what must seem like years now.

That's why he's rushing, I told myself. He needs the money. He needs the money to keep fighting the case. Isn't that ridiculous? Look how much we're charging him just to stay here. Isn't he an asset to us? Isn't he worth more to us in the country than out of the country? Should that even be a consideration? The fact of the matter is that John Lennon's presence gives us spiritual warmth, and that's something you can't measure with no price tag. They may be different faces now, but it was the same people who threw Charlie Chaplin out too.

I was with my 14-year-old son, Joel, and we took a walk out on the Record Plant roof where there's a picnic table.

highest-level stories I've ever been able to catch say that's where John's deportation order originally came from. And they weren't even after him, it was Yoko they found offensive. And so, according to the brilliant strategic thinking of the type now made public in the presidential transcripts, they figured if they deported John they'd be getting rid of Yoko. The excuse? That discredited old English dope charge against Beatle John: The ace nark who busted him got busted himself for overzealousness. He admitted he planted the shit on most of his victims just so he could be a hero.

So here is John not even doing his number with Yoko anymore as far as I can see and the bureaucratic machinery, set in motion against *her* by our contemporary Marie Antoinettes, relentlessly keeps trying to nail *him*. Isn't there any way to stop this idiocy? I stood for a long time hung up on the unreality of the nighttime technicolor rooftops of New York. There's always something new to see in this city, salt mine that it is. The first words I ever heard John say, way back at the Beatles' first JFK press conference when they landed here in 1964, were that a little lunacy is good for everybody. As long as I've known John, he's been living with a little lunacy, more or less. But he had to be totally crazy to want to live in New York.

The irony came down on me like a guillotine. Here they were, voting on the articles of impeachment, and John gets another deportation order. Maybe it was the White House that decided to kick John out, but now the White House is getting kicked out too. Some-



The following information was obtained from the records of the  
Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, and  
the Bureau of Reclamation, regarding the land parcels  
described herein. The information is being furnished to you  
for your information and is not to be used for any other  
purpose. The information is being furnished to you in  
confidence and is not to be disclosed to any other  
person without the express written consent of the  
Bureau of Land Management. The information is being  
furnished to you for your information and is not to be  
used for any other purpose. The information is being  
furnished to you in confidence and is not to be  
disclosed to any other person without the express  
written consent of the Bureau of Land Management.

1974

CC 243.129-C ✓

Mr. Alan A. Ransom  
Attorney at Law  
5435 41st Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20015


Dear Mr. Ransom:

I have your letter of September 17, 1974 regarding  
the deportation matter of John Lennon and [redacted]

Attached is a memorandum of information which sets forth  
the current status of Mr. Lennon's case. [redacted]  
deported voluntarily from the United States in 1972 while  
deportation proceedings were in progress. She has not been  
readmitted to the United States to date.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
James F. Grasse  
Deputy Commissioner

Enclosure

CC: CO 243.107-C

CC: Commissioner's Reading File

ENF:HB:me

AB



August 21, 1974

196

CO 243.129-C ✓

cc: CO 703.724

cc: OLA

United States Senate

(b)(6)



RECEIVED

SEP 30 1974

Respectfully referred to  
INS

O.L.A.

for such consideration as the communica-  
tion herewith submitted may warrant.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

Please reply directly to the constituent

and forward a duplicate report to this

office with the original correspondence.

By direction of

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

*ltr. to Constituent  
dated OCT 7 1974*

*David M. Kennedy*  
U.S.S.

SEP 18 9 56 AM '74

OFFICE OF  
SENATOR  
EDWARD M. KENNEDY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

SEP 27 8 09 AM '74

DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
MAIL ROOM  
ORON

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# Two Questions about Lennon

By AL ARONOWITZ

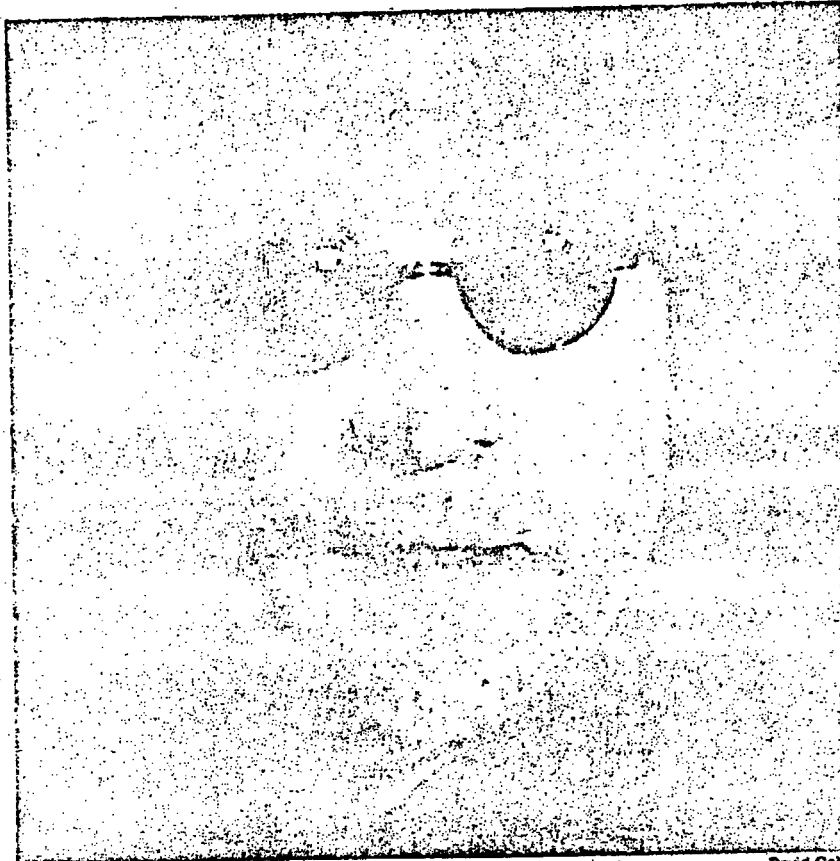
NEW YORK — John was wearing shades, his chestnut hair glistening in the fancy studio lights, big ones over his ears, sitting in a booth by himself, looking at his session band through a plate-glass partition, changing on a solid body electric, grinning, laughing, smiling and chattering like some mad coachman who keeps whipping the horses, *kerrraack, kerrraack, kerrraack*, scaring the shit out of all his passengers, except he knows perfectly well he's going to get everybody home safe. He's just in a hurry.

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# John's Legal Case: Few Options Left

NEW YORK—On July 18th, the Justice Department announced that it had ordered John Lennon to leave the country by September 10th, after the Immigration Service denied Lennon an extension of his non-immigrant visa because of his guilty plea in England to a 1968 marijuana possession charge.

On the same day, a California state senate committee urged decriminalization of marijuana possession in the state, calling it "no threat to public health, safety or morals."

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The dry statistics and public statements of support—including many from within the show business community—nonetheless left Lennon riding a lonely horse. According to one of his attorneys, Steven Weinberg, his next step is the federal courts. "Unless there are orders by the court to stay that decision, Lennon is going to have to leave the country," Weinberg said. "But wherever there is an administrative decision that you feel is against the weight of evidence, you can always petition the federal courts to review that decision."

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Prospects in both of those areas are slim, however, since Lennon has tried before, unsuccessfully, to have the English charge dropped, and since there is no expectation of a special bill getting through Congress.

"I think there should be some revision of the law if small amounts of marijuana are involved," said Rep. Joshua Eilberg (D-Pa.), chairman of

## Lennon's Options

Continued from page 19

mittee members) oppose any change in the laws affecting drug offenders who seek resident status, although those same committee members would never say so publicly.

Whether any legal prospect is open to Lennon, though, is questionable. Two Senate staff members spoke of the Byzantine workings of the Washington mind. "Lennon has got enough money to keep appealing this thing forever," one said, "and that's what they'll let him do." The other: "If he'd just hire Edward Bennett Williams then he could do whatever he wants."

## Comments: Let Him Be

**RINGO STARR:** Don't you think it's time to end all this silliness and give John his visa? Because he's one of the greatest of our time and your time. America should be proud that John wants to live here.

**LOU ADLER:** History will reflect on the life of the incredibly talented John Lennon. His contributions will be remembered, and felt, long after the rule and rule makers that cause us to defend his right to choose where he wished to live and create, will have disappeared and been forgotten.

**DAVID GEFFEN:** I think it's so moronic. He's certainly not undesirable. To me, it makes no sense; it's sad and tragic. The political system in America is in such complete disarray, this is just another kind of ridiculousness. Lennon is certainly more desirable than Nixon.

**RICHARD PERRY:** The times are strange indeed when an antiquated law can force a man to leave this country, particularly when that man has contributed so vitally to our culture. It is to our credit that John Lennon has chosen to live in this country. Most important, he's one of the few people who really understands and loves the essence of rock & roll.

**CLIVE DAVIS:** This country was founded by free-thinking great minds, but the breed is a diminishing one. We should be thankful that Lennon wants to make these shores his home. Since his spirit will always live with us, it's really pointless to banish its physical

SIGNED AND MAILED

OCT 8 1974

CO 703.149

Dear Senator Symington:

I have your letter of September 24, 1974 regarding the deportation matter of Mr. John Lennon.

On July 10, 1974, the Board of Immigration Appeals dismissed Mr. Lennon's appeal and granted him 60 days from the date of that decision in which to depart voluntarily from the United States. However, on September 6, 1974, a petition to review Mr. Lennon's deportation order was filed in the United States Court of Appeals in New York. The petition for review stays Mr. Lennon's deportation pending a determination of the petition by that Court.

Mr. Dwyer's allegation that this Service, in Mr. Lennon's case, is selectively enforcing the immigration laws, is simply not true. Mr. Lennon's case was referred for a deportation hearing because it was found that he had violated the nonimmigrant status under which he was admitted to the United States; and thus, he became one of the thousands of cases that are referred for deportation hearings every year.

In fiscal year 1974, this Service deported 18,824 aliens to all parts of the world, while another 718,740 were required to depart without the issuance of formal deportation orders. I think that Mr. Dwyer will agree, from the number of illegal aliens removed, as indicated above, that this Service has little time or inclination to single out any alien, be he John Lennon or plain John Smith, for arbitrary treatment as alleged by Mr. Dwyer.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
L. F. Chapman, Jr.  
Commissioner

Honorable Stuart Symington  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

CC: CO 243.129-C

CC: Commissioner's Reading File

ENF:HB:me

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1974 SEP 26 PM 12:51

Sept. 24, 1974

THE  
**United States Senate**

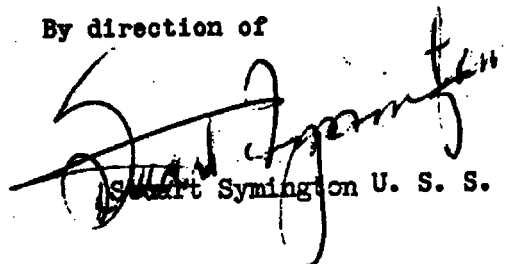
Encl'd from [redacted] St. Louis, Missouri,  
re his continued opposition to the deportation of  
John Lennon

Respectfully referred to

Congressional Liaison Office  
Immigration & Naturalization Service

for such consideration as the communication  
herewith submitted may warrant, and for a report  
thereon, in duplicate to accompany return of  
inclosure.

By direction of



Stuart Symington U. S. S.

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# Ex-Beatle Lennon's Immigration Hustle



Jack Anderson

**I**N A CASE with Watergate overtones, Ex-Beatle John Lennon is being hustled out of the United States on a six-year-old hashish charge while more than 100 aliens with similar or worse drug records remain.

The singer-composer's major problem does not appear to be his 1968 guilty plea in England to unwitting possession of a small amount of "hash." Rather, his offense seems to be outspoken opposition to the Vietnam War and false rumors that he was going to lead a demonstration against Richard Nixon at the 1972 GOP convention.

We have learned that Lennon's serious troubles with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, a branch of the Justice Department, began after Senator Strom Thurmond (Rep-S.C.), began to find him troublesome.

★ ★ ★

**I**N EARLY 1972, Thurmond wrote a note about Lennon's activities to his friend, then Attorney General John Mitchell. The cantankerous but candid Thurmond conceded to us he wrote to Mitchell but explained it was an "informational" letter about Lennon, not one calling for action.

Nevertheless, action swiftly followed the letter. Leon Wildes, Lennon's lawyer and former president of the prestigious Association of Immigration and Nationality Lawyers, told us: "I intend to prove the letter resulted in instructions to the District Director Sol Marks (of Immigration in New York) to disregard Lennon's other

equities and to scuttle any applications he might file until after he had been deported."

The record indeed shows that within days of Thurmond's letter, a stay for Lennon was revoked and strict deportation proceedings began.

Other records at Immigration show that more than 100 aliens with drug records, have, unlike Lennon, been granted "non-priority decisions" which permit them to stay in the United States indefinitely.

Our investigation turned up aliens not only with heroin and marijuana convictions, but rape, murder, robbery, burglary, car theft, perjury and even bigamy. All have been allowed to stay in the United States for "humanitarian" reasons.

★ ★ ★

**U**NLIKE many other foreign stars who make big money in the United States and run, Lennon has begged for permission to remain here. His musical enterprises have generated some \$50 million worth of business and brought untold tax revenues to local, state and federal collectors.

The legendary singing star has summed up his feelings about the immigration mess and his love for the United States this way:

"... Nobody came to bug us, hustle us or shove us, so we decided to make (the U.S.) our home. If the Man wants to shove us out, we gonna jump and shout, 'The Statue of Liberty said, 'Come!'"

*Today's column is by Jack Anderson and Les Whitten.*

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RE: MR. AND MRS. JOHN LENNON

OFFICE

Mr. Lennon is ineligible for a visa and admission into the United States because of a conviction of possessing cannabis resin. An alien convicted of such an offense may not be admitted for permanent residence. Nevertheless, his entry may be authorized under a special provision of law for a temporary visit.

Mr. Lennon's present visit to the United States was authorized under this special provision of law for business purposes and to attend a custody hearing in court proceedings in connection with Mrs. Lennon's child by a previous marriage. His entry was authorized for these purposes upon the recommendation of the Department of State. Service records show that Mr. and Mrs. Lennon were last admitted into this country on August 13, 1971.

Since they did not depart from the United States within the time authorized, deportation proceedings were instituted against them on that ground. Subsequent to the institution of such proceedings, the Department of Labor issued a labor certification on Mr. Lennon's behalf and he was accorded a third preference classification by this Service to be used in applying for an immigrant visa.

The deportation hearing before a special inquiry officer originally scheduled for March 16, 1972, and adjourned on several occasions, was concluded on May 17, 1972. At that time, the special inquiry officer gave Mr. Lennon's attorney until July 1, 1972, to file a brief. The brief was timely received and the trial attorney representing the Service was given a similar period in which to submit a brief in reply. Thereafter, the special inquiry officer will enter his order based upon his consideration of all the evidence and with complete regard for their right to due process. It is anticipated that this order, which is subject to appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals, will be entered by mid-September.

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OCT 11 1974

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CO 243.129-C

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I have your letter of October 3, 1974, and attachment regarding the deportation matter of John Lennon.

The second paragraph of our letter of September 20, 1974, inadvertently showed that Mr. Lennon was authorized to remain until February 29, 1974. This date properly should be February 29, 1972.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Sincerely,

*James F. Greene*  
James F. Greene  
Deputy Commissioner

CC: Commissioner's Reading File

ENF:HB:me

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*def*

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